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Feb. 25, 2019

The Hon. Zoe Lofgren
The Hon. Rodney Davis
Committee on House Administration
1316 Longworth House Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515

Public Citizen Statement for the Record in Support of H.R. 1

Dear Members of the Committee:

On behalf of Public Citizen's 500,000 members and supporters, we write once again to express our wholehearted support for the sweeping ethics, campaign finance and voting rights reforms offered by the For the People Act (H.R. 1), which you are marking up in preparation for a final House floor vote.

In November 2018, the American people went to the polls and resoundingly cast their ballots in support of candidates and officeholders committed to cleaning up corruption and holding government accountable. H.R. 1 embodies these principles and carries through with your promise to the nation to ensure that public officials work for the people.

This sweeping legislative package addresses three key buckets of reforms which are essential to make our government work effectively and fairly. The legislation provides:

- Comprehensive campaign finance reforms that would end dark money and reduce the alarming influence of special interest and corporate money over our elections.
- Desperately-needed governmental ethics reforms to slow the revolving door between public service and powerful business interests, and strengthening oversight and enforcement of ethics laws and rules.
- Voting and electoral reforms that would end gerrymandering and reaffirm the principle of one person, one vote.

Within each of these three buckets H.R. 1 proposes numerous critical reforms that get to the heart of the corruption problems and, if implemented, will go a long way toward restoring public confidence in our federal government. Each and every one of these proposals are significant remedies to what ails this nation and are endorsed by Public Citizen.

While there is some room for enhancing a few of the reforms offered by H.R. 1 – such as closing

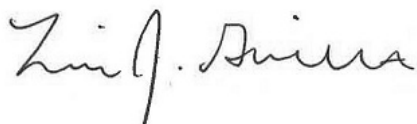
the “strategic consulting” loophole in the two-year revolving door restriction, providing the Office of Government Ethics (OGE) with the direct authority to investigate ethics transgressions and issue administrative remedies for violations, and mandate that the president is subject to our nation's conflict of interest laws – Public Citizen strongly urges the committee not to accept any amendments that weaken the measure or delay its consideration.

Proudly, there have been no signs of retreat from the sweeping reforms of H.R. 1 by its congressional sponsors. Public Citizen applauds the hard work and bold initiative of these sponsors and of the supporting members of this committee.

Sincerely,



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